

Renton NOW



Oct/Nov 2007

RENTON, THE CENTER OF OPPORTUNITY



NEWS IN BRIEF

New Personnel in Fire Department

Capt. Robert Van Horne was welcomed as the new deputy fire chief, replacing Larry Rude who retired. Deputy Chief Van Horne has worked with the Renton Fire Department since 1981 and has been acting as Battalion Chief of Training and Support Services. The city also promoted Lieutenant Roy Gunsolus to fire captain and Firefighter Rick Myking to fire lieutenant.

Renton Museum Selected for Smithsonian Exhibit

The Renton History Museum was selected by Humanities Washington to participate in the Museums on Main Street program, a federally funded partnership between the Smithsonian Institution and local humanities councils to bring traveling exhibits to communities around the country. The museum will host the exhibit entitled, "Key Ingredients: America by Food" from March 7 to May 10, 2009.

Job Fairs for The Landing September, October

Over 100 prospective employees attended the first "Ahead of the Curve" Landing Job Fair on September 20 at Renton Technical College. Hiring managers from retailers coming to The Landing—Starbucks, Staples, Lowe's and Target—made over 25 job offers, conducted multiple interviews, and scheduled additional follow-ups with many candidates. Another job fair for The Landing will be held in October.

Grand Opening of Tiffany Park

The City of Renton held a grand opening ceremony to celebrate Tiffany Park's expansion and new activity building, now more than double its original size. The building design and construction feature many green elements, including passive solar heat and natural light, in-floor hydrothermic heating to make use of concrete floor mass, and recycled and recyclable materials used throughout, including carpet tiles and steel roof and siding.



LARGEST CONSTRUCTION PROJECT COMPLETE

Logan Avenue Opens Road to The Landing

The City of Renton held a ribbon cutting ceremony on September 25 to open Logan Avenue. It was the culmination of the largest public works project in Renton's history and the next step in the realization of The Landing, a 46-acre retail/residential development scheduled to open in October.

"This is a very exciting moment for all of us," said Renton Mayor Kathy Keolker.

With a successful on-time and on-budget completion in September 2007, the improvements also include a number of amenities such as stamped colored concrete, raised sidewalks, street trees, and decorative street lighting.

"This project is proof that we are realizing Renton's vision to be the center of opportunity in the Puget Sound region where families and businesses thrive," said Renton City Council President Toni Nelson.

October is the month in which some stores at The Landing, such as Target, held their grand openings.



CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

The City of Renton, Renton Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club of Renton will honor Kirby Unti as the 2007 Citizen of the Year and Joy Poff and Lee Wheeler as Outstanding Citizens. This award recognizes their dedication and exceptional contributions to the Renton community. The Renton Senior Activity Center is the host of the October 18 award ceremony at the annual Citizen of the Year Banquet.

Citizen of the Year Kirby Unti has served as pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church for the past 27 years and has been an active player in a number of social and community service organizations.

E-POLICE REPORTING A SUCCESS

In 2006 the Renton Police Department implemented an online reporting system for citizens to report minor offenses. It made reporting this kind of offense convenient for citizens and made more efficient use of police officers' time, freeing up officers to address other community problems.

Since January 2007, the department has received 747 reports online. Since each such report would have taken 46.5 minutes on average to handle in person, the new system has resulted in a savings of almost 580 hours of patrol time.

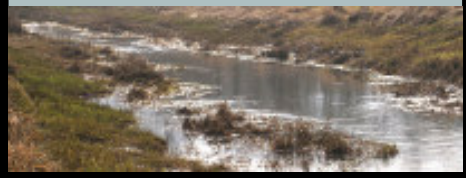
E-Police is available from the home page of rentonwa.gov.

GREEN CITY RENTON

Springbrook Wetland Bank Project

Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and the City of Renton launched an innovative partnership to re-establish and enhance over 130 acres of wetlands in the Renton area to address the effects of development within the city and those from WSDOT transportation projects. WSDOT and the City of Renton are integrating an interpretive trail throughout the site which will be open to the public. Construction is underway, and the project is expected to be completed in May 2008.

For more information, visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/i405/Springbrook.



ENFORCEMENT CAMERAS

Speed cameras will be installed later this year to catch motorists driving too fast near schools and through red lights. They will be installed in front of Renton High School, Talbot Hill Elementary School, and McKnight Middle School as well as at the following intersections: NE 3rd & Sunset N.; the 3-way intersection of Sunset N., Bronson Way N. & SR 169; and S. 43rd & E. Valley Hwy. Another will be installed at Rainier S. and S. Grady Way. A warning period will be in effect prior to enforcement.



RentonNow Feedback
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OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

October 1-31. Downtown Storefront Scarecrows Display. Throughout downtown.

Thursday, October 18. 5 - 10 p.m. **2007 Citizen of the Year Banquet.** Renton Senior Activity Center \$25. Sponsored by Renton Chamber of Commerce. 425-226-4560.

Saturday, October 27. 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. **Boo Carnival.** Renton Community Center. **Holiday Craft Bazaar.** 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Renton Senior Activity Center.

Downtown Trick or Treat. 1-4 p.m. **"Olde" Fashioned Halloween Party.** 1 - 4 p.m. Main Street Square.

Wednesday, November 7. 7 - 9 p.m. **Renton Water Utility Public Meeting.** Discuss the city's conservation goals. Highlands Neighborhood Center.

Thursday, November 8. 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. **Natural Yard Care Workshops.** Highlands Community Center. Free. **FEMA Community and Public Floodplain Meeting.** 6 - 8 p.m. City Hall.

Friday, November 15. 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. **Natural Yard Care Workshops.** Highlands Community Center. Free.

Friday, November 16. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. **Hassle-free Holiday Bazaar.** Renton Community Center. Free.

Saturday, November 17. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. **Hassle-free Holiday Bazaar.** Renton Community Center. Free.

Friday, November 30. 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. **Clam Lights Lighting Ceremony.** Free. **Parade of Boats.** 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Coulon Memorial Beach Park. Free.

I-405 WIDENING PROJECT KICKS OFF

The Washington State Department of Transportation kicked off the I-405 Renton Stage 1 Project construction on October 4 at Liberty Park. The widening project will add one northbound and one southbound lane to I-405 between I-5 and SR 167. There will also be the addition of one southbound lane on SR 167 between I-405 and S. 180th St. and an extension of the southbound SR 167 HOV lane to start from I-405.

This project will improve mobility and safety through Tukwila and Renton.

NEWS, AGENDAS VIA EMAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Renton residents can subscribe to email alerts that notify them about news releases, job openings, council agendas, and more. The alerts tell subscribers when the city's website is updated. Residents can choose which pages on the site they want to monitor. To sign up for the alerts, go to the rentonwa.gov home page and click on Subscribe to Web Page Updates under Online Services.

CITY CONTACTS

Area Code 425

General Information	430-6400
Mayor	430-6500
City Council	430-6501
Municipal Court Judge	430-6550
Chief Administrative Officer	430-6500
City Clerk	430-6510
Code Enforcement	430-7373
Community Services	430-6600
Economic Development, Neighborhoods, & Strategic Planning	430-6575
Emergencies	911
Finance & Information Services	430-6850
Fire/Emergency Services.	430-7000
Human Resources & Risk Management	430-7650
Planning/Building/Public Works	430-7200
Police	430-7500
or epolice.rentonwa.gov	
Utility Billing	430-6852

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